

the 19th March, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exclude certain articles falling under Chapters 84 and 85 from the Heading 98.06 under section 10 of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4087/87.]

- (2) A copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 293(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th March, 1987 making certain amendments to Notification No. 63/87-CE dated the 1st March, 1987 so as to grant excise duty exemption on fabrics coated or laminated with preparations with low density polyethylene when used in the manufacture of plastic woven sacks issued under the Central Excise Rules, 1944.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4088/87.]

**Detailed Demands for Grants of
Ministry of Industry for 1987-88**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Industry for 1987-88.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4089/87.]

1. Shri G. M. Banatwalla
2. Shri Veerandra Patil
3. Shri Sunil Dutt
4. Smt. Indubala Sukhadia
5. Shri S. S. Ramasamy Padayachi
6. Shri Udaisingrao Gaikwad
7. Smt. Vyjayanthimala Bali
8. Shri Yashwantrao Gadakh Patil
9. Shri Chhitubhai Gamit
10. Shri Charan Singh

12.05 hrs.

ASSENT TO BILLS

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table the following four Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament during the current session and assented to since a report was last made to the House on the 20th March, 1987:

- (1) The Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1987.
- (2) The Appropriation Bill, 1987.
- (3) The Appropriation (Nos. 2) Bill, 1987.
- (4) The Cotton, Copra and Vegetable Oils Cess (Abolition) Bill, 1987.

12.06 hrs.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM THE
SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House in their Seventh Report presented to the House on 26th March, 1987, have recommended that leave of absence be granted to the following Members for the period mentioned against each:

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| | 4th November to 9th December, 1986. |
| | 23rd February to 15th April, 1987. |
| | 23rd February to 22nd April, 1987. |
| | 23rd February to 25th March, 1987. |
| | 4th November to 9th December, 1986. |
| | 2nd March to 25th March, 1987. |
| | 2nd March to 20th March, 1987. |
| | 23rd March to 3rd April, 1987 and
13th April to 24th April, 1987. |
| | 12th March to 1st April, 1987. |
| | 23rd February to 22nd April, 1987. |

Is it the pleasure of the House that leave as recommended by the Committee be granted ?

The leave is granted. The Members will be informed accordingly.

12.07 hrs.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

[*English*]

Fortieth Report and Minutes

SHRIMATI CHANDRA TRIPATHI (Chandauli) : I beg to present the fortieth report (Hindi and English versions) of the Estimates Committee on the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare—Medical Stores Organisation and Minutes of the sittings of the Committee relating thereto.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*English*]

(i) Demand for banning lottery system in the country

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS (Jaipur) : Gambling is punishable under law. But the lottery system which is almost as good as gambling, has been legalized by the Government, which is encouraging its citizens to take part in lottery. This gives rise to the tendency to depend upon speculation, and kills the spirit of devoting one's labour to earning a livelihood. This tendency to run after lottery gives birth to materialism, and also leads to exploitation, by suppressing the initiative to do honest work, which is inherent in human beings.

Our Constitution aims at equality and abolition of monopoly in all spheres of life. Thus, the system of earning money by purchase of lottery tickets not only makes a man to run after speculation, but also it goes against the spirit and letter of our Constitution.

So, I urge upon Government to change its policy; and it should not encourage the

lottery system. The lottery system should be stopped immediately.

(ii) Exemption of turmeric, chilli and coriander from excise duty

SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH (Bombay North) : Sangli in Maharashtra is internationally well known for turmeric and chilli trade. The cottage industries to grind the turmeric and chilli have come up in the southern part of India, due to availability of raw materials. Consequently, the exporters and spices manufacturers get their job work done from these cottage industries. Lakhs of workers from rural area are employed in these industries. This industry is basically rural unskilled woman-labour-oriented.

The limit of Rs. 15 lakhs sanctioned for turnover under MODVAT is exhausted within a month, due to the value of the material. In the total turnover, the value of the materials is 97 per cent. One can easily guess about its lowest profitability, and as the major amount of turnover is material value, there is no benefit of MODVAT scheme for grinders. Due to imposition of 15 per cent excise duty on spices, the industry has already stopped its functioning, and lakhs of rural workers are facing unemployment. The term 'spices' is not defined clearly. Among the spices, black pepper, cardomom, clove, ginger etc. are costly items, and can be considered as luxury items, but turmeric, chilli and coriander (*dhaniya*) specially, are poor man's daily needs. Turmeric, chilli and coriander are not treated as spices, when grinded and packed separately for sale. The imposition of excise duty on spices will result in shooting up the prices of spices, even common man's spices such as turmeric, chilli etc.

The imposition of excise duty will hit the said cottage industries, as a result of overall slow-down of domestic business as well as exports, which is against the national objectives. Due to increased tendency of using loose and adulterated material, there will be a revenue loss of Agmarkisation and standardization.

I request the Hon. Finance Minister kindly to grant exemption from excise duty levied on grinding turmeric, chilli and coriander powder.